

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gF1EuNN8sLiTTISMk2AEeuwXWJQ>

The **US Commission on International Religious Freedom**, a non-partisan official body that advises the US government, last week criticised Iran for &quot;ramping up vilification&quot; of Bahais in light of recent unrest.

&quot;These allegations are not only without merit but downright fabricated,&quot; said Leonard Leo, chairman of the commission.

&quot;If the Iranian government moves forward next week with the trial of the seven Bahai leaders, the US government and international community must demand fair and transparent proceedings in accordance with the international human rights standards,&quot; he said.